

be changed over in a short time and without particular specialist knowledge. There is now the possibility of interchanging various types of feeders for folded sheets, flat sheets, cards or the like. It is likewise possible to bring up and to position the feeders from both sides to the axis defined by the transport device. Depending on the requirement, a feeder area of various types of feeders and with a variable number of feeders, which are positioned from the right and from the left with respect to the transport device, can be put together. Feeders can now also be used for different and various types of installations or machines, by being interchanged simply between the installations. In the event of maintenance and service requirements, the respective feeder can be replaced simply and quickly. Maintenance, repair or a test run can be carried out without any connection to the entire installation.

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The paragraph starting on page 10, line 18 and ending on page 11, line 20 now reads as:

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Fig. 1 shows the feeder area of the gatherer stitcher or of the collating machine. This is a mobile feeder. For example, shown here is a system of three feeders 10 over the transport device 12. Arrows A indicate a transport direction of flat products 5. Shown here as a specific topology is the exemplary configuration in which two of the feeders 10 are

positioned from the right, and one feeder 10 is positioned from the left, with respect to an axis defined by the transport device 12. In principle the feeders 10 can be brought up to the transport device 12 in various configurations from both sides, that is to say also for example all from one side. The transport device 12 has a gathering chain 14, which is borne by transport chain frames 16. In principle, the position of the feeders 10 in relation to the transport chain can be chosen freely. However, it is advantageous during operation to fix the apparatus that ensures mobility of the feeders 10 and to fix the position of the latter. The feeders 10 each have a feeder superstructure 18 and a subframe 110, which is brought up to the gathering chain 14 in such a way that the subframe 110 is located partly under the gathering chain 14. In an advantageous development of the invention, as shown here in Fig. 1, stops 112 are provided on the subframe 110, so that positioning the feeders 10 in relation to the transport device 12 simply and without difficulty is made easier. Stops 114 are advantageously likewise provided on the transport chain frame 16. During operation, wheels 118 of the feeders 10 can be fixed by fixing screws 116. In other words, the feeders 10 have a simple mechanism to ensure their mobility, but can be rendered immobile for operation.

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The paragraph starting on page 12, line 6 and ending on